

Remarks

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration and further examination are requested.

The specification and abstract have been reviewed and revised to make a number of editorial revisions. A substitute abstract has been prepared and is submitted herewith. No new matter has been added. Enclosed is a marked-up copy of the abstract indicating the changes incorporated therein.

Applicants hereby request that the Information Disclosure Statement filed with the Patent Office on September 29, 2003 be fully considered by the Examiner. It appears that the Examiner unintentionally omitted to initial next to reference WIPO 97/14147 listed on the form PTO-1449 submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement on September 29, 2003. Enclosed herewith is a copy of the form PTO-1449 in question. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial next to this reference and return a copy of the form PTO-1449 with the next Office Action.

Claims 8-10, 26, 29 and 42 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Nakajima (US 5,832,088).

Claims 1-7, 11-25, 27, 28, 30-41 and 43-55 have been allowed. The Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for this indication of allowable subject matter.

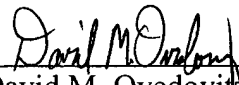
In order to expedite prosecution of the present application, claims 8-10, 26, 29 and 42 have been canceled with prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter contained therein. As a result, only allowed claims 1-7, 11-25, 27, 28, 30-41 and 43-55 remain.

In addition, claims 1, 4-7, 11, 14-17, 19, 21-25, 27, 28, 30, 31, 33-41 and 43-52 have been amended to make a number of editorial revisions. These revisions have been made to place the claims in better U.S. form. None of these amendments have been made to narrow the scope of protection of the claims, nor to address issues related to patentability and therefore, these amendments should not be construed as limiting the scope of equivalents of the claimed features offered by the Doctrine of Equivalents.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that there are issues remaining which must be resolved before allowance of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

Yoshihiro TOSAKI et al.

By: 
David M. Ovedovitz
Registration No. 451336
Attorney for Applicants

DMO/jmj
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021
Telephone (202) 721-8200
Facsimile (202) 721-8250
June 21, 2004

ABSTRACT

In a DVD player, when data information in a DVD disk is played back, it is judged whether the data information is protected by a copyright or not on the basis of disk control information. Further, it is judged whether the DVD disk is writable or not, based on whether the DVD disk is provided with a wobble or not. Thus, if the data information is protected by the copyright and the DVD disk is writable, a playback of the DVD disk is prevented so that an illegal use of the DVD disk, which infringes the copyright, is effectively prevented.

FORM PTO, 1449 (modified)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICELIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Date Submitted to PTO: September 29, 2003

ATTY DOCKET NO.
2000_0926ASERIAL NO.
09/582,727APPLICANT
Yoshihiro TOSAKI et al.FILING DATE
September 7, 2000GROUP
2653

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
BV	AA	5,538,773	7/1996	Kondo			
BV	AB	6,289,102	9/2001	Ueda et al.			
BV	AC	6,009,170	12/999	Sako et al.			
BV	AD	6,005,839	12/1999	Sako et al.			
BV	AE	5,802,174	9/1998	Sako et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO	
BV	AF	7-21687	1/1995	Japan	_____	_____	Abstract	
BV	AG	9-320192	12/1997	Japan	_____	_____	Abstract	
	AH	97/14147	4/1997	WIPO	_____	_____	Abstract	
BV	AI	9-55731	2/1997	Japan	_____	_____	Abstract	
BV	AJ	4-123320	4/1992	Japan	_____	_____	Abstract	
BV	AK	10-188285	7/1998	Japan	_____	_____	Abstract	
BV	AL	7-182766	7/1995	Japan	_____	_____	Abstract	
BV	AM	9-115242	5/1997	Japan	_____	_____	Abstract	
BV	AN	9-17119	1/1997	Japan	_____	_____	Abstract	
BV	AO	9-171619	6/1997	Japan	_____	_____	Abstract	

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

AP

AQ

EXAMINER

bachVuong

DATE CONSIDERED

10/22/03

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.